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To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Thank you for this opportunity to voice my opinion.

The Microsoft settlement solution offered by the Justice Department is a sham, window dressing to cover a decision to back out of the whole enterprise. The settlement is so weak as to be meaningless. Remeadiation to those who were harmed virtually non-existent. Enforcement mechanisms are flimsy and will be ineffectual.

The Justice Department tried to enforce an agreement with Microsoft with a weak settlement in the past. They failed because the enforcement mechanisms relied on good faith by Microsoft instead of effective rules and procedures. The result was a further solidification of the Microsoft monopoly, companies and products driven from the market place, and an outrage from the government that was embarrassing given that a blind man could have seen it coming.

Don't repeat history. The only effective settlement is one where the remedy fixes the problem and the required remedial actions can be enforced. Enforcement can not rely on good faith by Microsoft, not then, not now, not ever.